(*b*) As the tree-tax has been enhanced, the amount to be paid to the owners of land may also be increased.

Reply of Government.—(*a*) There is some justification for the complaint. The question of amending the rules will be considered.

(*b*) This is purely a matter for arrangement by agreement between the owner of the land and the licensee.

REVENUE—(INCOME-TAX).

(Nos. 64 to 67.)

SUBJECT No. 64.

Reduction of the rate of income-tax levied from joint-stock companies.

Messrs. V. K. Nanjundiah, Gundlupet Municipality; K. S. Channabasappa and G. Venkataseshaiya, Gundlupet Taluk.

Summary of Discussion.—From private individuals, income-tax at the rate of 3 pies in the rupee is being collected, but the rate of tax levied on joint-stock companies is 1 anna in the rupee. This is not just, inasmuch as joint-stock companies have got to maintain a staff and incur incidental expenses. The tax may be reduced, at least, to 6 pies with a view to encourage such companies.

Second Member of Council.—This will be considered in connection with the amendment of the Income-tax Regulation.

SUBJECT No. 65.

Extension of the period of appeal against the orders of Income-tax Collectors.

Messrs. Soorappa, Narasimhaiya, Sira Taluk, and S. Naranappa, Sira Municipality.

Mr. Soorapva.—At least, two months' time may be allowed to prefer appeals against the orders of the Income-tax Collectors, instead of one month as at present.

Dewan.—The time for appeal is fixed as per rules in force in British India. If the appeal comes after 30 days, there is discretion to admit the appeal. The rules cannot be changed.

SUBJECT No. 66.

Exemption of those who pay profession-tax from the payment of income-tax.

Mr. Bhari Sanna Thippeswami, Molakalmuru Municipality.

Mr. Bhari Sanna Thippeswami.—Municipalities levy a profession-tax in addition to income-tax which is a great hardship to merchants. Those who pay profession-tax may therefore be exempted from paying income-tax.

Dewan.—Profession-tax is a local tax which benefits the Municipalities, but income-tax is a tax which goes to Government. These two are quite different and it is not possible to grant the exemption asked for.

SUBJECT No. 67.

(*a*) Appointment of a committee to check the accounts and determine the income-tax payable by each individual.

(*b*) Relaxation of the rules about accounts under the Income-tax Regulation.

Summary of Discussion.—The rule about accounts is very oppressive. People do not know how to maintain correct accounts and this point has been represented many a time. In many cases persons are made to pay more tax than they should actually pay as per rules. At times, tax is levied from persons not liable to taxation. Relief in these matters is very necessary.

Assessing income on the total "turn over," as at present, is a great hardship. The general presumption that every business man gets a profit does not always hold good.

Mr. Basavannappa.—If a local committee is appointed to determine the tax payable by persons, there will be no room for such difficulties.

Messrs. (*a*) Basavannappa, Davangere Taluk; (*b*) C. Narasimhaiya, Heggaddevankote Taluk, and H. Krishna Sastry, Krishnarajpete Taluk.

Dewan.—The question of accounts is under consideration. The Second Member of Council and the Income-Tax Commissioner have inspected several income-tax offices and I have also done it. I have received representations in the matter from merchants in Davangere and other places. Whatever is possible in the matter will be done by Government. It is not possible to adopt the suggestion of appointing a committee. Business men have their own work to do and income-tax work cannot be entrusted to a Panchayet. These points will be considered in connection with the new Bill under consideration.

REVENUE—(REGISTRATION).

(Nos. 68 to 74.)

SUBJECT No. 68.

Appointment of a committee for the registration of documents in lieu of Sub-Registrars.

Mr. T. M. Onkarappa, Davangere Taluk.

Mr. T. M. Onkarappa stated that the posts of Sub-Registrars might be abolished and the work entrusted to a committee as in the case of Bench Magistrates, as such a procedure would result in savings to Government and would help a good deal, the raiyats who were subjected to considerable hardships.

Messrs. Karnick Krishnamurthi Rao and Siddalinga Devaru supported the proposal. The former also drew attention to the fact that the system prevailing in Ceylon was promised to be considered.

Mr. Malali Venkataramiah opposed the proposition on the ground that other difficulties would crop up by the arrangement suggested and stated that a change was not desirable, particularly as the existing system prevailed throughout India.

Mr. M. Subbiah also objected stating that the reorganisation and increase of pay was the only remedy and that non-officials could not work.

Reply of Government.—Noted. The point regarding the system in Ceylon has been under correspondence.

SUBJECT No. 69.

Change of working hours in sub-registry offices.

Mr. Abdul Nabi Khan Sahib, Tumkur Municipality.

Mr. Abdul Nabi Khan Sahib said that the raiyats that came from distant places were put to much inconvenience and trouble as the Sub-Registrars' Offices would not be kept open for receiving documents after 3-30 P.M., and requested that it might be ordered to be kept open till 5-30 P.M.

The Second Member of Council pointed out that as the Sub-Registrars had to close the day's accounts and remit the money to the treasury in time, it was not possible to keep the office open late and that the Sub-Registrars had discretion to receive documents though presented after the usual time.

The Dewan replied that the matter would be enquired into.